

## SENATE RESOLUTION 230

By Williams

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Lisa Allen upon her nomination as Jefferson County Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute our superlative educators who have given unreservedly of themselves to develop this state's most precious natural resource—our children; and

WHEREAS, one such extraordinary educator is Mrs. Lisa Allen, who has been nominated by her colleagues at Jefferson Elementary School for Jefferson County Teacher of the Year laurels; and

WHEREAS, even though teaching was not her original choice of profession, Mrs. Allen has rendered exemplary service in Knox County and Jefferson County schools since 1992; she taught third grade at Carter Elementary School from 1992-2001, and fourth and fifth grades at Dandridge Elementary School, and has served as guidance counselor for grades kindergarten through third grade at Jefferson Elementary School for the past three years; and

WHEREAS, after studying respiratory therapy at Monroe Community College in Michigan, Lisa Allen worked in hospitals, and it was while working with children at these hospitals that she discovered her true calling in education; Mrs. Allen still utilizes her health care knowledge as the medical first responder at Jefferson Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Allen earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education in 1991 and her masters degree in guidance and counseling in 1996 at Carson-Newman College, before earning an education specialist degree in 2007 from East Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, as a guidance counselor at Jefferson Elementary School, Lisa Allen implements the Character Counts program, visiting classrooms to teach character lessons such as decision making, problem solving, and getting along with others while working closely with

classroom teachers, the school's principal, and Ed the Bee, the Character Counts program's mascot; and

WHEREAS, she also works one-on-one with at-risk students, does some academic screening of students, and is the school counselor involved in Response to Intervention (RTI), in which role she organizes brainstorming sessions between herself, other teachers, the principal, and the reading coach to determine how to best meet an at-risk child's needs; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Allen is an extremely patient and giving person who motivates her students to reach their full potential, perhaps the greatest of all teaching gifts; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her work at Jefferson Elementary School, Lisa Allen still finds time to lend her talents to such notable organizations as the Tennessee Counselor Association and the Smoky Mountain Association of Counselors; she currently serves as elementary counselor coordinator and on the Foster Care Review Board for Jefferson County, in addition to conducting several workshops for teachers and parents; and

WHEREAS, she displays her deep, Christian beliefs as an active and devout member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Allen is most grateful for the love and companionship she shares with her husband and their two children; and

WHEREAS, Lisa Allen is a never-ending source of inspiration to those who know and cherish her and is tremendously admired by students and faculty alike; and

WHEREAS, highly regarded as a professional and friend, Lisa Allen is the perfect example of a person wholly committed to quality education and the highest ideals of public service, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and congratulate Mrs. Lisa Allen upon her nomination as Jefferson County Teacher of the Year, applaud her dedication and expertise as an educator, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

